

The American Observer

A free, virtuous, and enlightened people must know well the great principles and causes on which their happiness depends.—James Monroe

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Greek Problem Is World Issue

Situation Complicated by Major Power Rivalry In Mediterranean

GREECE, despite the fact that it is a country only slightly larger than the state of New York, has been in the world spotlight almost continuously since the end of the war. Her people are bitterly divided over the way in which their government and industry shall be run. This conflict would not receive so much outside attention if it were not for the fact that Russia and England are dangerously mixed up in it.

England, in order to protect her position in the Mediterranean area, is supporting those groups within Greece which are favorable to her. Russia, in the hopes of extending her control in this region, is backing the radical Greek groups which are sympathetic to her.

The rivalry between Russia and England is likewise causing serious trouble between Greece and her Balkan neighbors. Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, and Albania, all partners of Russia, are hostile to Greece. These countries are vigorously supporting Bulgaria's demand for a corridor of Greek land extending to the Aegean Sea. They are also fighting Greece's claim to a province now held by Albania. England, on the other hand, is strongly supporting the Greeks in these territorial disputes.

In order to understand the present crisis over Greece, we need to review its background. Before World War II, Britain had enjoyed the lion's share of influence in Greece for a

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Price Decontrol Speeded

Nation Awaits Consequences of Return to Free Market; Will It Bring Full Production and Prosperity in Its Train or Lead to Depression?

THE meat crisis of recent weeks is expected to play a prominent part in the congressional elections on November 5. This issue does not, of course, stand alone. A number of questions are connected with it. Why are there shortages not only of meat but of many other things that people want to buy? Who is responsible for the scarcity of goods? Should the government have tried to limit the prices at which scarce articles could be sold? Should that policy be given up?

These questions, which have been discussed for months, have had increased attention since October 15. At that time President Truman, in a radio address, announced that the government would no longer control the price of meat and meat products, and that the controls would soon be taken off many other foods and goods, and also off wages.

In his address the President gave his side of the controversy about shortages and price controls. The next day Carroll Reece, chairman of the Republican National Committee, spoke to the nation by radio and explained the issues from his party's point of view.

Since then the arguments of these opposing leaders have been repeated and debated throughout the country. Everyone is talking about the meat shortage and meat prices but the issue is much larger than that. The central question is this: Should the government, at a time like the present, maintain a general policy of price control? Should it set ceiling prices on scarce products and prohibit their sale at a higher price?

This issue has been hotly debated since the end of the war. It was generally agreed that there should be

price controls while the war was going on. Prices usually rise sharply in a period of war, since goods for civilian use are scarce and everyone is scrambling to buy them. To prevent this from happening during the recent war, the government fixed ceiling prices for most products. The rules were reasonably well enforced, and prices did not rise greatly.

When the war ended there was a difference of opinion as to whether the wartime controls should be continued. President Truman said "yes." He tried to get Congress to re-enact the wartime regulations which, according to law, were to end June 30, 1946. Most of the Republicans in Congress were opposed to this plan. Quite a few Democrats joined them—enough to give a majority to those who were opposed to continuing the wartime price regulations.

Congress passed a bill giving the government continued power to regulate prices, but the President thought it was weak. He thought it would not enable the government to regulate prices effectively, so he vetoed it and for a while after June 30, producers and merchants were free to sell at whatever prices they could get. Late in July Congress passed another price control bill. President Truman considered this bill unsatisfactory, but he signed it and it became law.

In his radio address of October 15, the President said that he had tried to enforce this law. He said the government had done all that it could to hold prices down to what it considered to be reasonable levels, but, he said, the price control rules had been violated. Furthermore, producers were withholding their goods from the market in the hope that controls would be lifted. Accordingly, he announced that he would give up the attempt to limit prices which could be charged in the case of meat and many other articles.

The attempt to have the government maintain a general program of price

(Concluded on page 2)

Friendships That Endure

By Walter E. Myer

IF your best friend knew of the worst thing you have ever said about him, would he still be your friend? Probably relations would at least be some-

what strained. There are moments of irritation when we are inclined to speak harshly of others and our friends do not always escape our criticisms. Or we may be in conversation with someone who makes unflattering comments about a friend of ours, and we may weakly agree and add a word of our own, simply because it is easy to go along with the current.

There are a few close-lipped individuals who control their emotions, and who rigidly guard their speech, but these, unfortunately, are exceptional. Most of us heedlessly pass judgments upon our associates and toss reproaches about with little consideration of pos-

sible consequences. As a result many a friendship is needlessly broken.

One can usually avoid discord by following two rules of conduct. First, discipline your tongue. Do not engage in petty gossip and fault finding. If others are making unfriendly comments about someone you know, keep out of the discussion. Don't say anything which, if quoted, would injure or anger the person who is being discussed. Under such circumstances, you can be friendly but close-mouthed.

I do not mean that you should always refrain from adverse criticisms. There are times when you will wish openly to condemn practices of others. You may very properly take a strong stand in such a case. But don't make slurring remarks behind a person's back when you would not say the same thing to his face. Criticize only when there is good reason for doing so. Do not heedlessly or capriciously enter a quarrel or make an enemy.

The second rule is that you should not take too seriously the thoughtless criticisms which a friend may make of you. If the friendship is on a solid foundation it should not be disturbed by an unimportant incident. You know that you sometimes say unpleasant things about people whom you really like and whose friendship you would not want to lose. You may assume that those who at times criticize you may nevertheless continue to value your friendship.

Our best friends will make mistakes sometimes. Now and then they will act unworthily. When they do we should treat them as we would wish them to treat us. We should judge them, not by their worst moments, but by their day-by-day conduct over a long period of time.

If you will keep these facts in mind you will establish friendships on a firm basis—friendships which will not be shaken by trifles.



Walter E. Myer



"Where am I?"

JENSEN IN CHICAGO DAILY NEWS



"Your watch is no good!"

HERBLOCK IN WASHINGTON POST

TWO VIEWS OF THE CONFLICT BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND HIS OPPONENTS

Price Control

(Concluded from page 1)

regulation has therefore been defeated, at least temporarily. The price control issue, however, is still very much alive.

Many people believe that serious results will follow the removal of price controls. They think that if the country is to be saved from inflation and economic disaster, Congress must adopt stronger price control legislation. Those who hold this view support their position with the following arguments:

"The necessity of price control is as great as it was during the war period. There is still a shortage of food and of many other things which the people want. The farms and factories are turning out great quantities of goods. Production all along the line is at a high level, but the supply of these things has not yet caught up with the demand. In every city and town in the country, the stores are crowded with people who are trying to buy food and clothing and many other articles which are not on the shelves—not in sufficient quantity to meet the demand.

Still Have Money

"Many families still have plenty of money to spend, for nearly all the workers are employed and wartime savings have not been used up. Business profits are also high. Many people are willing and able to pay almost any price which may be asked in order to get the things they want.

"Under these circumstances, when price controls are removed and the stores are allowed to raise the prices of their goods, they can do it and still sell everything on their shelves. As a result, prices sky-rocket.

"This means that well-to-do families can have all the meat and milk and clothing that they want, while poor families, unable to pay high prices, go without. The cost of living rises and the standards of living fall.

"As the cost of living continues to rise, workers will demand higher

wages. There will be a wave of strikes and this will cut production so that scarce goods will become even more scarce.

"As some of the demands of labor are met, and as wages rise, the cost of production will go up and prices will rise still further. This will cause still more labor troubles. Prices will rise again and this will continue until, after a while, the people, taken as a whole, cannot buy as much at the high prices as is being produced. Then factories will cut production or close down, throwing workers out of employment, and we shall sink into disastrous depression—a depression which may be far worse than that which followed the crash of 1929.

"All this can be prevented if the government, by law, keeps prices down until more goods can be produced. Factories are busy now, and after a while, they will be making enough so that the shelves will be filled again. The period of scarcity will be over. There will be plenty of goods for people to buy and buyers will not be bidding against one another to secure scarce articles. When that time comes, and not before, price controls can be removed without causing an upward spurt in prices. Government regulation of prices is the only policy which will prevent inflation followed by depression."

The arguments which have been quoted convince many people that the wartime regulations should be restored and enforced until industry is fully changed over to peacetime production. Opponents of price control, however, do not agree. They think that rents should still be kept down by the government, and that prices should be limited on certain articles, but they oppose the general program of price control. They support their position with such arguments as these:

"What we need at present is full production all along the line. If the farms and factories can be induced to turn out goods as rapidly as possible, the shelves in the stores will soon be full again. The needs of the people will be supplied. Buyers will no longer be scrambling to get the things they want, for there will be plenty of these

articles. Merchants will be anxious to dispose of their goods and will be forced to keep prices down in order to make the sales.

"We should, therefore, do everything we can to encourage production. We can do this by allowing farmers, manufacturers, wholesalers, and merchants to make good profits on the things they have to sell. If they can do this, they will produce as much as possible and shortages will soon be a thing of the past.

"If the government places a limit on the prices which producers may obtain for their goods, production will be discouraged. Many of the prices will be so low that producers cannot make profits. They will then hold back. They will not put their goods on the market. Instead they will continue to wait, hoping that after a while, price ceilings will be lifted and that they can then make a larger profit.

"As a result the shortages will continue as they have continued in the

case of meat and many other things. Many merchants will disobey the law. They will sell goods at illegal prices to favored customers. Black markets of this kind will be found in every city and town. People who have plenty of money to spend will pay the high prices at the black markets, and poor people will be unable to make purchases.

"We can see how price control works by recalling what happened in the case of meat. For several weeks following July 1, the price of meat was uncontrolled. Farmers, livestock producers, packers, and meat markets were free to sell at prices which gave them fair profits. As a result meat came back to the counters. There was plenty for people to buy.

Control Brought Scarcity

"Then price limits were put back on meat. The government fixed prices above which no sales could be made. But the result was not cheap meat in the markets. It was no meat at all.

"Now the President has belatedly removed the price ceilings and meat is coming back to market. The first sales were at very high prices but when the markets are well supplied again prices will fall. In a short time they will have settled to fair levels.

"That is what will happen all along the line as price controls disappear. Production will increase, the shelves will be filled, merchants will compete with one another for customers, and prices will be held to a reasonable level."

Now that price controls are being lifted from most of the articles on the market, we shall have a chance to see which side is right about the consequences that will follow. If the opponents of government price regulation are right in their reasoning, there will be a marked increase in production. Goods of all kinds will be plentiful in the near future and will be sold over the counters at fair prices.

If, on the other hand, the supporters of government price control are correct in their conclusions, there will be rapidly rising prices, lowered standards of living, labor troubles and decreased production, followed by depression. Public opinion on this issue is sharply divided.

SMILES

Tenant: "The people upstairs are very annoying. Last Monday they were stamping and banging on the floor till after midnight."

Landlord: "Did they wake you?"

Tenant: "No, I was playing my tuba."

★ ★ ★

A burglar who had entered a poor man's house at midnight was interrupted when the man awoke. Drawing his weapon, he said:

"Don't move or I'll shoot. I'm hunting for your money."

"Let me strike a light," said the victim, "and I'll hunt with you."

★ ★ ★

Electrician: "Take hold of the end of one of those wires. Feel anything?"

Helper: "Nope."

Electrician: "Well, then, don't touch the other one. It's got over 5,000 volts."

★ ★ ★

"What's that ugly insignia on the side of the bomber?"

"Sh-h-h-h! That's the commanding officer looking out of the porthole."

★ ★ ★

Passenger (to bus conductor reading paper): "What time does this bus start?"

Conductor (pointing to paper): "At the end of this article."

Old Gentleman: "You're an honest lad, but it was a \$10 bill I lost, not 10 ones."

Boy: "I knew it was a \$10 bill I picked up, but the last time I found one the owner didn't have any change."

★ ★ ★

He: "No woman ever takes another woman's advice about dresses."

She: "Naturally. You don't ask the enemy how to win the war."



INTERLAND IN SATURDAY EVENING POST

"I can see it now. . . One of my great grandchildren is pushing my wheelbarrow up to the door of my new home for the first time. . . It's all painted white with green shutters."

Weekly Digest of Fact and Opinion

(The opinions quoted or summarized on this page are not necessarily endorsed by THE AMERICAN OBSERVER.)

"Smoldering Youth," by Attorney General Tom Clark, This Week Magazine.

Today, American youth views a world that seems baffled and confused. Adults, discouraged and pessimistic, are failing to point out to young people the opportunities for achievement and adventure which lie in good citizenship.

One of the most easily seen results of this failure is juvenile delinquency. Teen-agers commit about 51 per cent of our burglaries, 62 per cent of our car thefts, and 15 per cent of our murders.

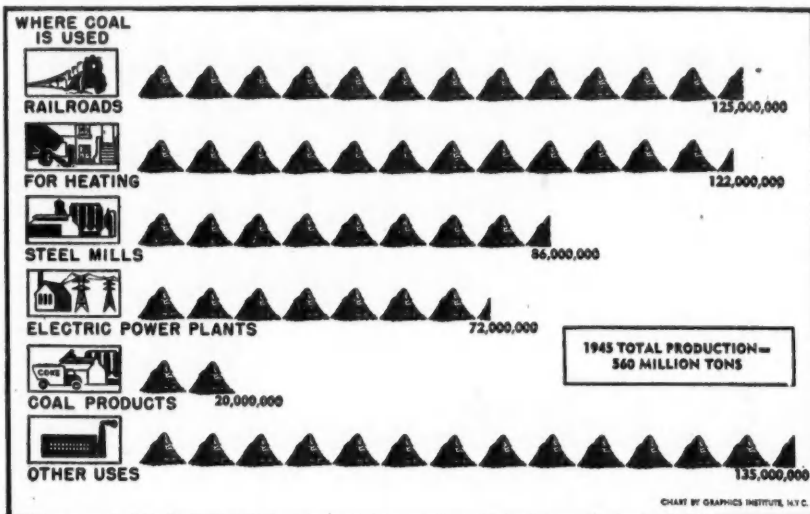
Even more dangerous than juvenile delinquency is youth's general lack of faith in the future. Our real need is to make young people realize that while they are living in a dangerous age, it is also an adventurous and challenging one. American youths must not adopt the attitude that what is to happen will happen, but instead they should plunge into the task of helping to fulfill the great promise of tomorrow's world.

During the war it took \$36,000 to train one fighter pilot. We spent that much gladly, because we knew that the pilot's job was important, and we wanted him prepared in the best possible way. Education to train our youth for democracy would be less expensive than was the training of war pilots, but it is just as vital to our country.

"License the Poll Takers?" by Edward Bernays and Claude Robinson, The Rotarian.

Unofficial polls, the best known of which are those conducted by the American Institute of Public Opinion (popularly known as Gallup Polls), are gaining influence in our society. Politicians and businessmen frequently look at the results of public opinion tests in an effort to find out what the people want. It is often said, too, that such polls are themselves an influence on the opinions of people who always like to be on the side of the majority.

Mr. Bernays, one of the authors of this article, argues that because polls have so much influence they must not be left available for use by irrespon-



COAL IS ESSENTIAL to a modern, industrial nation, as the chart above shows. While the chart shows the main uses of coal in the United States, it indicates the effect of the acute coal shortage in Europe on life over there.

sible men. Unskilled poll takers, and unprincipled ones too, often sample public opinion inaccurately. Sometimes they do this by questioning people who are not really representative of the group supposedly being tested. Frequently they ask questions in such a way as to insure answers which they desire.

Polls of opinion must be taken by honest, skilled men, says Mr. Bernays. He argues, therefore, that standards of character and ability should be set up for poll takers, that the government should issue licenses to applicants meeting those standards, and that no one should be permitted to conduct polls without a license.

Mr. Robinson, the other author, thinks that such a plan might be the first, dangerous step toward destroying freedom of the press. He fears that licensing boards might eventually give permits only to those poll takers who could be depended upon to "discover" public attitudes favorable to the government.

Our best safeguard against dishonest and unskilled poll takers, Mr. Robinson believes, is free and open competition. Under such a system, he says, the public will soon learn which polls of opinion are reliable and which ones are not.

"Famine in Coal is Retarding Economic Recovery of Europe," World Report.

Chief among Europe's shortages this winter will be the shortage of coal. The mines there are producing far more coal than they did a year ago, but still much less than they turned out before the war. This coal famine, through its effect on transportation and manufacturing, is prolonging all the other shortages in Europe.

Among the many causes for the shortage of this fuel are the following: (1) destruction of mines during the war, particularly in the Ruhr district of Germany; (2) losses of transportation, especially in Germany, the Netherlands, and Poland; (3) worn-out equipment which cannot yet be replaced; (4) shortage of skilled labor, in spite of the continued use of German war prisoners in the mines of France, Belgium, and Poland; (5) lowered productivity of the workers, caused by poor food and shelter.

The United States, which before the war used to sell only 11 million tons

of coal a year to all the rest of the world, now sends about 22 million tons to Europe alone. Shipment of coal across the Atlantic, however, is a very expensive procedure. Poland and Great Britain can sell only small amounts of coal to Western Europe, for most of what Poland can spare will go to Russia, and Britain will have very little beyond her own needs.

There are no "short-cut" solutions for this fuel famine. The rebuilding of Europe's coal industry will be a long, gradual process.

"Japan's Food Shortage," editorial comment, Toledo Blade.

Efforts of our Military Government have succeeded in raising the amount of food available to the average Japanese to only about 1,350 calories a day. The average person in America gets more than two and one-half times that much. Our Military Government is now trying to raise Japanese daily consumption to at least 1,700 calories.

Small wonder that there is political and labor unrest in Japan! Unless the people of that country get more food, absenteeism and lowered working efficiency will cripple production and delay Japanese recovery. Nothing will be more likely to work in favor of the Communists, who are still hoping for more power in Japan, than hunger.

The only workable long-term remedy for Japan's food shortage is restoration of her world trade, so that she can exchange her manufactured goods for food from other lands. Meanwhile, we should do everything we can to provide the people of that country with more food at the present time.

"Freedom for 'Snakes'? Yes, Even So," editorial comment, Denver Post.

How can democratic society protect itself from the enemy within—from such groups as fascists and communists who would use our freedom of speech as a means of gaining power and would then destroy freedom itself? Does freedom carry the seed of its own destruction?

The *Denver Post* was criticized recently for publishing a letter from a well-known agitator. The person who made this criticism said, "I don't believe in giving a snake an even break. I believe in stepping on it before it has a chance to strike."

This statement raises a vital question. At the heart of democracy lies the right of opposition and free discussion. If democratic government cannot tolerate freedom to utter dissenting views, can it be called a democracy?

The answer lies in whether the opposition represents simply a disagreement with views of the party in power, on issues that are subject to democratic decision, or whether it represents a real threat to the spirit of democracy itself. The first type of opposition must, of course, be allowed. In cases of the second type, threats to the very existence of democratic principles, democracy must act to save itself.

Our problem is to determine the exact point at which a real, immediate threat occurs, and to strike down the opponents of freedom only when they have reached that point. In the case of "crack-pots," who oppose democratic principles but who are too weak to be an immediate danger, we gain more by permitting them to expose themselves than by suppressing them.

"Gen. Chennault's Airborne Relief in China," editorial comment, Los Angeles Times.

Much starvation in China has been caused by inability of relief agencies to transport food into remote parts of that country. Poor roads and railroads, or in some places the complete lack of them, have kept agencies such as the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration from taking food into famine-stricken areas.

Hopes of Chinese in such isolated regions are now brightened by the announcement that Claire Chennault starts this month to carry food supplies to them by air for UNRRA. Chennault is well-known in China as the former leader of the famous American "Flying Tigers" air force.

He says that by Christmas he intends to have 12 planes running daily schedules and carrying 1,000 tons of relief goods monthly. This would supply more than 30,000 persons.

References on Major Articles

Price Control

"Should Price Control Be Retained?" by Colston E. Warne. *Current History*, June 1946. The President of the Consumers Union of the United States writes about the issues involved in price control, and the arguments for and against it. This article was published a short time before the brief price control "holiday" of last summer.

"The Boom." *Fortune*, June 1946. This article, illustrated by numerous pictures, graphs, and cartoons, gives a general picture of the widespread unrest, shortages, high prices, and labor difficulties experienced in this country since the war.

"The Wage-Price Squeeze." *The New Republic*, August 26, 1946. This article discusses the hardships which wage-earners face as a result of rising prices.

Greece

(1) "Greece Must Unite," by Joseph G. Harrison. *The Christian Science Monitor Magazine Section*, March 16, 1946. (2) "UNRRA Tackles Its Biggest Job," by Walter Lucas. *The Christian Science Monitor Magazine Section*, May 11, 1946. The first of these articles describes political disunity in Greece, and the second gives a picture of that country's critical economic plight.



Dr. George Gallup, whose polls of public opinion let us know what the nation is thinking on current subjects. Should polls such as he conducts be government regulated?

The Story of the Week

No Meat from Argentina

The controversy over meat in this country has focused attention on the fact that meat from Argentina is not allowed to come into the United States. This discrimination against one of Argentina's chief products has long been a source of irritation to that South American country, and it has done much to keep Argentina from co-operating with our nation.

The United States claims that Argentine cattle have the dread hoof-and-mouth disease, an infection we have eliminated among our own herds. If we let cattle from the Argentine come into our country, it is said, we would risk having our animals become diseased again.

Argentina claims that her cattle do not have the hoof-and-mouth disease. She says that we do not buy her meat because our own cattle raisers want to keep the American market for themselves.

Some observers think it is time for a thorough investigation to be made of the situation. Authorities do not entirely agree on whether or not the Argentine cattle are really infected. Many point out that our armed forces used meat from Argentina without suffering any ill effects, and that people of England and other nations eat the meat regularly without damaging their health.

A New Movie

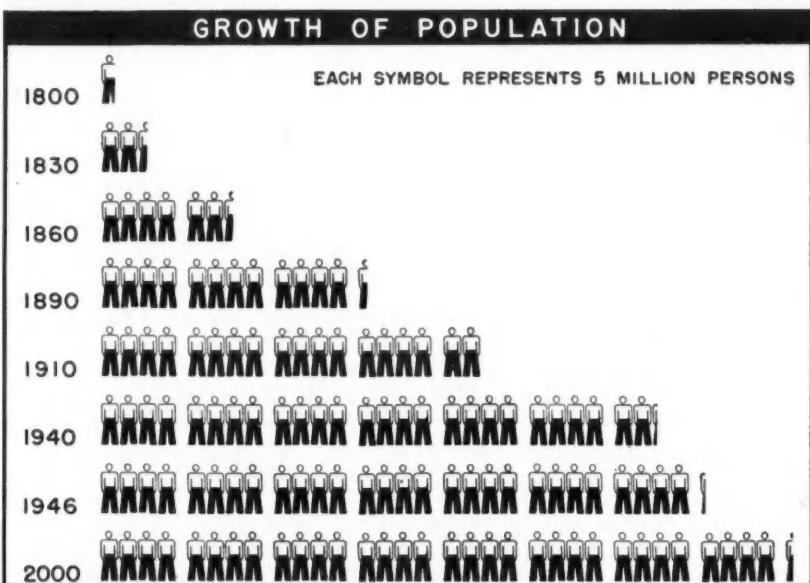
Margie, a new Twentieth Century-Fox production, takes us back to mother's teen-age days. There she is with her souvenirs—her pictures of flagpole sitters and goldfish swallowers, her valentines and her dance programs—all of which seem quaint and curious to her own teen-age daughter.

The whole story is there—mother's trials and tribulations in school, her hit tunes and her crooners, her triumphs and her sorrows in romance. The rivalry between the tall handsome French teacher and the hometown boy who has always counted on Margie is certain to hold your interest.

Community Chest Drives

This is the season when the Red Feather appears, as towns and cities the country over conduct their annual Community Chest drives.

The yearly drive is a great improvement over the old way of collecting money for civic organizations and charitable institutions. It used to be that each group had its own campaign. This week citizens might be approached on behalf of the Boy Scouts, and next week for the Visiting Nurse Society. Later they might be



JOHNSON
THE POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES was less than 5 million in 1800. Today we are a nation of 141 million people. By the year 2000, according to current estimates, we shall have a population of more than 160 million.

asked to contribute to the Milk-and-Ice Fund, to the orphanages and the hospitals, and so on.

Under the present system, there is only one campaign for contributions each year. The people are asked to contribute only once, and all the causes share in the money raised in this one campaign.

No matter how small your contribution may be it will help to fill your community's chest. Every one of us can share in some way with those who are less fortunate than we are. Each of us can do something to make our communities better places in which to live.

East Indies Divided

After British troops had liberated Indonesia, or the Netherlands East Indies, from Japan at the close of World War II, the people of those islands were determined to win independence. The Netherlands, however, in an effort to keep control of the island chain, sent troops there. Since that time, the natives of Indonesia have been at war with the Dutch.

The most important islands in this group are Java, Sumatra, Celebes, Bali, the Moluccas, and Dutch Timor. The whole area is about one-fourth as large as that of our country and contains about one-half as many people.

Although the natives have set up a government which is operating as a rival of the Dutch authorities, there is not any actual fighting now between the two groups. They are trying to find some compromise that will bring real peace to the islands.

Native Premier Sjahrir has expressed willingness to have Dutch ad-

visers in his government, and to let the Dutch keep property that they owned in the islands before World War II. He insists, though, that the Indonesians be given their political freedom. The Netherlands government is willing to yield a great deal along this line, but it wants the East Indies to be a member of a Dutch commonwealth—to have the same relations with the Netherlands that Canada has with Britain. Observers believe that both sides are anxious to have a stable government of some sort, and that a compromise will be made before long.

Up to now, British troops have also been present in Indonesia, but England has promised to withdraw them by the end of November. The Dutch intend to keep 100,000 troops in the islands, or about one-half the number in the native Indonesian army.

Crime Conference

About a thousand delegates, from all parts of the United States, intend to meet in Washington, D. C., late in November to make plans for the reduction of teen-age crime. Law enforcement officials, educators, ministers, and businessmen have been invited to the capital by Attorney General Tom Clark, who is deeply concerned about the present increase in the number of juveniles being arrested.

This conference, says Clark, will not deal merely with theories. It will set up a program of specific action for the local communities, the states, and the nation to use in attacking juvenile delinquency.

Attorney General Clark emphasizes

that this conference is not wholly a federal project. He describes his own connection with it by saying, "I am just bringing these people together—using my office as a clearinghouse for a nation-wide drive against delinquency. Whatever plans are made will be those of the conference. For delinquency is essentially a grass roots problem—and it must be attacked on the local level."

British Military Dispute

For many years Britain has based much of her military planning upon her "lifeline" sea route to the Orient. This route runs through the Strait of Gibraltar, the Mediterranean, the Suez Canal, and the Red Sea, into the Indian Ocean.

Some of Britain's younger, air-minded military men are now pointing out, however, that during World War II, their country survived even though this traditional "lifeline" was cut. Her real "lifelines" then were the sea lane around the southernmost tip of Africa, the air routes through the center of Africa, and, most important, the line between England and America.

The line through the Mediterranean, say these officers, would be as impossible to defend in a future war as it was in the most recent one. They conclude, therefore, that Britain would be wise to build military bases in East Africa, near the Indian Ocean, and prepare to concentrate her defense efforts upon the Cape of Good Hope sea route instead of upon the traditional Mediterranean line.

Older naval officers generally disagree with these views. To them, one of the greatest mysteries of the war is why Germany failed to make stronger submarine attacks on shipping along the Cape of Good Hope route. In a future war, defense of that sea lane might be very difficult.

Temporary loss of the Mediterranean during World War II, they say, was a result of Axis control of both shores. They think that if Britain could retain control of at least one side of the Mediterranean, she could keep open her old "lifeline."

Exchange of Students

England, France, and the United States have begun programs for exchanging students and teachers—programs that can help greatly to bring international understanding.

France started the exchange when she invited 100 American teachers of French to be guests of the government of that country for the summer. Recently French and American educators set up an agency, the American



The honest butcher—1946 version

ALLEY IN MEMPHIS COMMERCIAL APPEAL

Institute of France, which is to encourage an exchange of students between the two countries.

England, this fall, sent 75 British teachers to our shores in exchange for 75 of our teachers. Both these groups of teachers are gaining invaluable experience from their foreign school service.

During the summer, Congress passed a law which will do much to encourage an exchange of students between our own and other countries. Congress agreed that a part of the funds from the sale of surplus war goods to other countries could be used to allow foreign students to study in the United States and to let our students go abroad.

As one of the British teachers said of such a transfer of students, "You get more international experience from a plan of this kind than you'd ever get out of a ton of books."

Left and Right in Politics

In political discussions, both at home and abroad, two terms are constantly being used. They are "left" and "right." Our readers may be in-



Alan Young and Jeanne Crain in a scene from *Margie*

interested in knowing how these terms originated.

At one time during the French Revolution, when the revolutionary assembly moved into new quarters, it happened quite by chance that those who thought the revolution had gone far enough occupied the seats which were at the right as they faced the chairman. Those who wanted to go farther with the revolution sat on the left. The moderates sat in the center.

Since that time, it has been the custom in all of the parliaments on the continent of Europe for the more conservative forces to sit on the right, while the liberals, radicals, and socialists have occupied the seats on the left. This custom has given rise to the practice of calling the conservative political parties the "right," and the liberal or radical political parties the "left."

French Constitution

France's new constitution—her 16th since 1789—provides for a government somewhat like Britain's and a great deal like the one France had before the war. As under the old system, there is a weak president and a two-house parliament led by a premier. The premier is the government's real leader.

France's prewar constitution divided lawmaking power more or less equally between the 2 houses of parliament. The new one gives top authority to the National Assembly. The other house—the Council of the Re-

public—is merely an advisory body.

The French premier is unlike a British prime minister in that he cannot dissolve parliament and call a new election when the lawmakers refuse to uphold his recommendations. He has no choice but to resign and let the president name a new premier.

This feature caused a lot of trouble under the old French constitution. There were so many political parties that a premier had to win the support of several of them to hold a majority in parliament. Party alliances frequently broke up, leaving the premier without majority backing. Since the premier had to resign when this happened, few were able to hold office long.

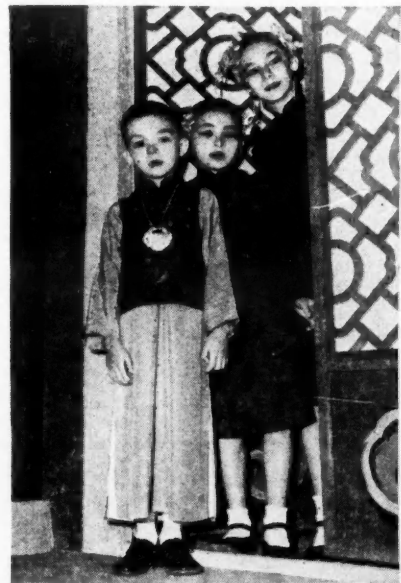
But French premiers may find it easier to stay in power under the new constitution. They will have to work with only one house of parliament—the Assembly—for the most part. Furthermore, there are fewer important political parties in France today.

On November 10, the French people go to the polls to elect members of the National Assembly. The new government is expected to be radical in character, since the Communists and Socialists together have the support of a majority of people in that country. How radical it will be, however, and how it will line up on foreign questions can be known only after the elections.

Spaak of Belgium

Belgium's able Paul Henri Spaak, President of the United Nations General Assembly, has been a government official in his own country for many years. He entered the Belgian Chamber of Representatives in 1932. Four years later he became, at the age of 37, one of the youngest Ministers of Foreign Affairs in his nation's history. He was made Premier in 1938, and held that office for about a year.

As a young lawyer in Brussels, shortly after World War I, he had been an active Socialist, described as a "firebrand." Later, however, as he rose to high positions in the government, he moved toward the middle of the road. In fact, since World War II, many Belgians have accused him of



THE THREE VLACHOS children of Shanghai, China, will soon tour the United States giving concerts to raise funds to aid other children in China. They have already established an international reputation for themselves as musicians.

being too conservative in his thinking.

His chief position during World War II was as Minister of Foreign Affairs for the Belgian government-in-exile in London. The record of his escape to London by way of France, Spain, and Portugal during the Nazi invasion of 1940 makes in itself an exciting story.

Since the war he has continued as Minister of Foreign Affairs. In 1945 he headed Belgium's delegation to the UN Conference on International Organization at San Francisco. Spaak has been an active and important figure in the United Nations ever since. In that organization, he has sided sometimes with the United States, Britain, or France, sometimes with the Soviet Union.

Spaak has represented his country well not only in politics, but also in sports. In 1922 he was a member of a Belgian tennis team which was in international competition, and he still is a better-than-average player.

Lend-Lease with Russia

The United States is now seeking to make a final settlement on the goods sent to Russia under the wartime lend-lease program. Our accounts with Great Britain, France, and five other countries have already been closed.

The lend-lease equipment sent to Russia cost about 11 billion dollars. We have agreed to cancel payment on all American goods used during the war, but we want Russia to make some payment for the goods which were left over and have since been used for civilian purposes.

England, in settling her lend-lease account with us, did not have to pay anything for the 26 billion dollars of American materials she used during the war. Moreover, we charged her only about half a billion dollars for some 4 billion dollars of our goods which were still unused or practically new at the end of the war.

To settle with France we cancelled payment on about 2 billion dollars of goods. We also sold her 1½ billion dollars of surplus war supplies for 300 million dollars.

Our State Department says that both France and England received such favorable terms on their lend-lease bills because they agreed to cooperate with the United States in its postwar program for international trade. Russia does not want to mix talk about world trade with settlement of her lend-lease account. She claims, however, that she suffered more than any other major nation during the war and thus is entitled to special consideration. There may be months of bargaining before this matter is settled.

Game of the Gridiron

Baseball may be "the great American game," but certainly no sport can be more typically American than the game we know as football. The broad field to play in, the opportunity for strategy and display of initiative, the demands made on both mind and muscle—all these make football a game which is as American as pumpkin pie.

Football was played in Europe, however, long before it was known in this country. It began in England, but the English boys did not have anything like the modern, highly inflated ball which is now in use. The sport re-



Paul Henri Spaak, President of the United Nations General Assembly

mained strictly a kicking game until 1823, when a member of the Rugby College team broke the rules by picking up the ball and carrying it across the field for the world's first touch-down. This was the beginning of the "Rugby" game.

American Rugby was played in our eastern colleges soon after 1830, and in May 1874, Harvard tied McGill College of Montreal in the first intercollegiate Rugby match in our country. Gradually the old Rugby turned into a game which is a great deal more complicated and permits a much higher degree of team play. This is the game that brings thousands of Americans to the stands on frosty fall days to yell themselves hoarse in support of their teams.

No radical has ever been made in the United States by radical propaganda. The people who make radicals here are those who refuse to recognize the reality of change.

—Dr. Frank Kingdon

The law of the survival of the fittest would be a fine rule if you really knew who was fit to survive.

—Paul de Kruif

The chief handicap to the march of progress is apathy and misconception.

—Heywood Broun

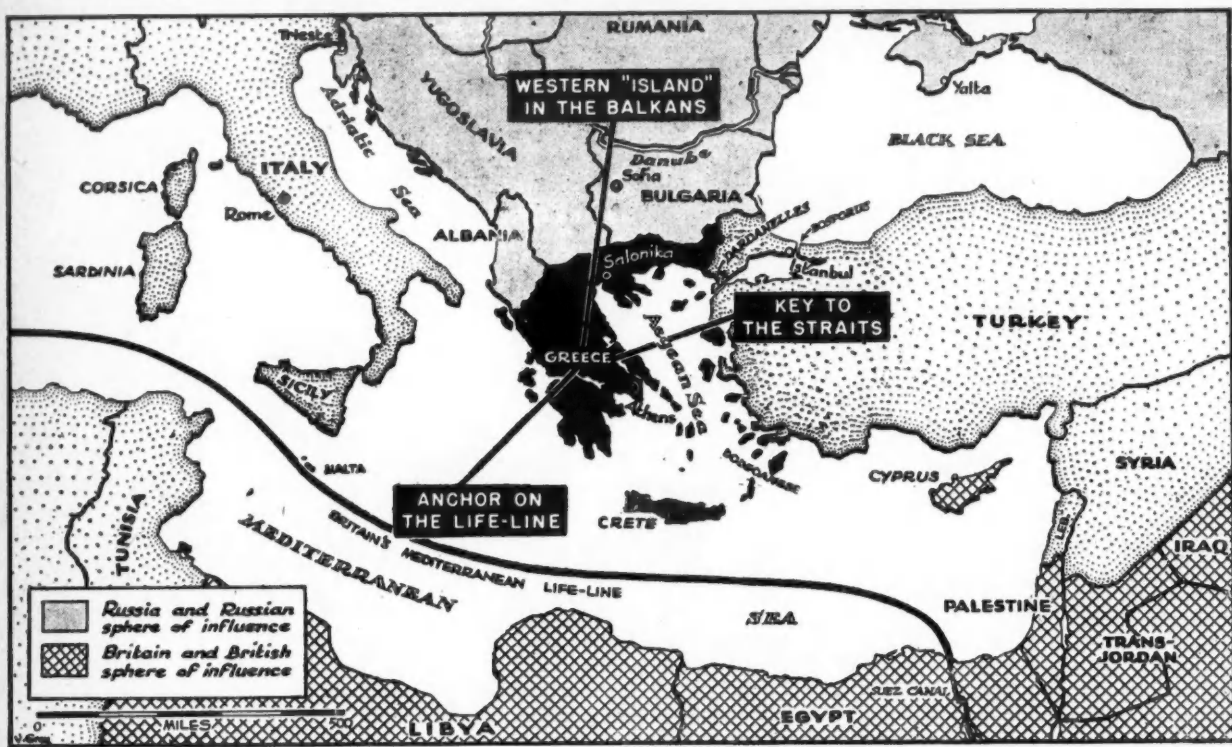
STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF JULY 2, 1946, OF THE AMERICAN OBSERVER, PUBLISHED WEEKLY THROUGHOUT THE YEAR (EXCEPT CHRISTMAS AND EASTER HOLIDAYS, AND THREE ISSUES FROM THE MIDDLE OF AUGUST TO THE FIRST WEEK IN SEPTEMBER), AT WASHINGTON, D. C., FOR OCTOBER 1, 1946. District of Columbia, ss:

Before me, a Notary Public in and for the District aforesaid, personally appeared Walter E. Myer, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Editor of THE AMERICAN OBSERVER, and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management, etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, as amended by the Acts of March 3, 1933, and July 2, 1946 (section 537, Postal Laws and Regulations), to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business manager are: Publisher, Civic Education Service, Washington, D. C.; Editor, Walter E. Myer, Washington, D. C.; Managing Editor, Clay Coss, Washington, D. C.; Business Manager, Ruth G. Myer, Washington, D. C.
2. That the owners are Walter E. Myer, Washington, D. C.; and Ruth G. Myer, Washington, D. C.
3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of the total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: none.
4. That the average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed, through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the twelve months preceding the date shown above is 308,718.

WALTER E. MYER, Editor.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 1st day of October, 1946.
Julian E. Caraballo,
Notary Public, District of Columbia.
My commission expires February 13, 1947.



THE THREEFOLD IMPORTANCE of Greece in the clash between East and West

Greek Conflict

(Concluded from page 1)

hundred years. Although a common religion (Greek Orthodox) had promoted friendship between Greeks and Russians in czarist days, the Soviet Union could offer Britain no real challenge in Greece until the recent war came.

In 1940, Italy attacked Greece. Mussolini's troops invaded from neighboring Albania, but were driven back by the Greeks. Then Hitler came to the aid of his Axis partner. Nazi legions poured in from the north and routed both the Greeks and the British forces which had been sent to help them.

But the Greeks would not be subdued in spite of the reign of terror which came in with the Nazis. Guerrilla bands sprang up all over the country to harry the German occupation forces. At first, these resistance groups were small and had little to do with one another. Within a short time, however, they were merged into two opposing organizations.

Political Division

Like the rival resistance groups in other countries, these two were sharply divided in their political views. One—the EAM, or National Liberation Movement—was largely Communist-led. It stood for sweeping reforms in the government of Greece and violently opposed the rule of the exiled king, George II. The other group was made up of conservatives and people of moderate views. It tended to favor the monarchy and, to a large extent, the way of life which had prevailed when George was on the throne.

Much of the opposition to the king had its roots in the EAM's dislike of the policies he had followed just before the war. From 1936 until the Axis invasion, the real power in Greece lay with a dictator, General John Metaxas. He was a conservative army man and had been friendly to the Nazis. King George had remained on his throne throughout the period of Metaxas' rule, doing nothing to oppose either his totalitarian ways or his Axis leanings.

Greeks outside the ranks of the EAM were critical of King George's prewar policies and disliked seeing him return. At the same time, however, they did not want to see him ousted because they feared that without the monarchy, Greece would turn to communism.

While both resistance groups fought hard against the Germans, they battled equally hard with each other over the issues of the monarchy and Greece's form of government. And at the time that these two factions—one leaning toward Russia and the other toward Britain—were warring between themselves, the future international controversy over Greece was in the making.

In the fall of 1944, the British invaded Greece and the Nazis retreated to the north. As soon as they were able to establish control over the country, the British clamped down on the EAM.

But the EAM and its army were not ready to accept this turn of events without a fight. They demanded that the king abdicate and called for immediate free elections to decide what form of government Greece should have.

The result was civil war. For more than a month, British troops, aided by sympathetic Greeks, fought the EAM's forces. When the EAM was finally beaten, the British arranged a compromise settlement. Archbishop Damaskinos, prominent Greek statesman who was well regarded by almost all groups, was made regent, or leader of the government in the king's absence. The British promised a plebiscite later on to decide whether or not the king should return. Free elections were also promised.

The truce a year and a half ago did not end factional strife in Greece. Armed bands ranged the rugged mountains outside the major cities. They clashed frequently with one another; more frequently with British troops and the Greek police.

But Britain kept her hold on the country. At last, in February of this year, British occupation authorities held the long-promised election. Supporters of the EAM called the arrangement unfair, claiming that they were prevented from campaigning along with the conservative parties.

They also charged the British with outright terrorism. Many refused to take part in the balloting.

The conservative Greek parties won a decisive victory in the election. The new government they formed quickly announced that the plebiscite would be held on September 1 instead of some time in 1948 as had been agreed previously.

The EAM and its sympathizers protested again. They knew that the unrest and strife in Greece would handicap them. Many Greeks who might otherwise oppose the king had become so weary of the conflict that they had begun to look upon the monarchy as the country's one hope of a stable government.

King's Victory

The outcome of the voting on September 1 was just what the EAM had feared—a decisive victory for the king's supporters. Now King George is back on his throne, and conservative political groups are in complete control of the government.

Yet the plebiscite has done no more to bring peace to the Greeks than did the election earlier this year. A small-scale civil war has been raging during recent weeks. The EAM accuses the British of forcibly interfering in Greek politics and of taking sides with its opponents.

The rumblings of international discord make the situation still more explosive. The Russians have come out openly on the EAM side, calling Britain's actions a violation of the United Nations Charter.

Ever since the end of the war, Britain has justified her presence in Greece on the grounds that she is defending the country against communism. She claims that the EAM is a Communist organization which aims to seize the government against the will of the majority of the people and turn Greece into a dictatorially run Communist state.

Those who look with disapproval on what Britain has done in Greece say that she is the one who has been using totalitarian methods. They accuse her of suppressing democracy in order to keep Russian influence at bay.

The issue over Greece is another of the dangerous and challenging problems facing the United Nations. It is difficult to foresee any solution of this or similar issues so long as the major powers continue to compete with one another for outside power and influence instead of working together in a sincere effort to settle such problems by cooperation.

Archbishop Damaskinos

For almost two years now, Archbishop Damaskinos, head of the Greek Orthodox Church, has been a leading figure in the affairs of his unhappy country. He was made Regent of Greece on the last day of 1944 and served as official head of the state until King George returned a month or so ago.

It was his job to hold the Greek government together until the voters could decide whether or not the king should come back. He was considered an ideal man for the task because his record of fearless patriotism had won him the respect of everyone in Greece, regardless of political opinion.

During the war, Damaskinos actively helped everyone who was fighting the Germans. He smuggled supplies to the guerrilla fighters in the hills, hid Greeks who were being hunted by the Nazis, and organized widespread relief work to ease the plight of Greece's war victims. Although he is known to dislike all extreme political views, he has been a lifelong friend of the poor and down-trodden. Fifty-five years old, this outstanding Greek liberal is a tall man of imposing appearance.

YOUR VOCABULARY

How good is your vocabulary? Read each of the following sentences, and then from the four words given at the end of each sentence, select the one whose meaning most nearly fits that of the italicized word in the sentence. Answers are given on page 8, column 3.

1. No one liked the *parsimonious* old man. (a) feeble (b) miserly (c) discontented (d) vicious.
2. Nature's laws are *immutable*. (a) mysterious (b) changeable (c) unchangeable (d) harsh.
3. The team defeated its *maladroit* opponents. (a) sportsmanlike (b) inept (c) cowardly (d) courageous.
4. *Fortuitous* circumstances enabled

the senator to win reelection. (a) favorable (b) unfavorable (c) chance (d) unusual.

5. That man can do a *prodigious* amount of work. (a) small (b) average (c) vast (d) additional.

6. The Nazi war criminals just executed were guilty of *heinous* offenses. (a) numerous (b) political (c) horrible (d) illegal.

7. Ancient rulers surrounded themselves with *obsequious* courtiers. (a) wise (b) alert (c) amusing (d) flattering.

8. The plumber found his work *onerous*. (a) burdensome (b) difficult (c) profitable (d) easy.

Historical Backgrounds

By David S. Muzzey

It may be safely predicted that a large number of American voters will fail to go to the polls on election day, November 5. In a few cases, of course, voters will not be able to cast their ballots because of illness, change of residence, or bad weather, but for the great majority of nonvoters indifference to their civic responsibilities will be the chief reason for failure to vote.

Back of this privilege of voting, which should be cherished by all free citizens, lies a long history of struggle to establish democratic government. The right to vote for public officials has not always been freely granted to everyone who took the trouble to register.

During the colonial period, for example, only a very small percentage of the adult population enjoyed this privilege of citizenship. As a general rule, only those who owned property—"freeholders"—were permitted to take part in the electoral process. Slaves, indentured servants, and many poor tradesmen were excluded from the polls. In some colonies, members of certain religious groups, particularly Jews, Catholics and Quakers, were denied the right to vote or to hold office. After 1776, many of these restrictions on voting were continued by the state governments.

When the federal Constitution was drawn up in 1787, it did not change the existing limitations on suffrage, but provided that state voting requirements should apply to elections of federal officers. Many of the delegates to the Constitutional Convention believed that the mass of uneducated, propertyless citizens could not be trusted to vote wisely.

During the early years of the 19th century, a strong movement developed in the eastern cities and in the new western states to extend voting privileges to all white adult males—"manhood suffrage." The next important extension of the franchise came at the end of the Civil War when the 15th amendment to the Constitution provided for Negro suffrage.



David S. Muzzey

Adoption in 1920 of the 19th amendment gave women the same voting rights as men, and nearly doubled the number of eligible voters in the nation. During the recent war, Georgia reduced the minimum age for voters from 21 to 18, and several other states are now considering this step.

From this review it can be seen that even our democratic United States has been slow to extending the right to vote to its citizens. In certain states, poll taxes and other devices still keep many Negroes and poor white people away from the polls. Throughout the nation as a whole, however, the most serious problem is that millions of people are so lacking in public interest they do not exercise their voting privileges. This lack of interest can be extremely dangerous to our country.



GREECE is an extremely mountainous country. That fact, plus the lack of rainfall in the summer, prevents the people from raising enough food to supply their needs.

Greece: A Devastated Land

Country Needs Peace and Foreign Aid if She Is to Repair War Damages and Modernize Her Economic Life

MOST of the 7¼ million people in Greece know as much about the sea as they do about the land. The main body of their historic little country is surrounded by water on three sides and one-fifth of its total area consists of small islands scattered throughout the Aegean Sea.

Principally an agricultural nation, Greece has only three cities with populations of more than 100,000. These are Athens, the capital; Piraeus, the port of Athens; and Salonika.

The climate of Greece is mild, but the country is so mountainous and rocky, and the summer rainfall so light, that less than 18 per cent of the land is suitable for raising crops. For each square mile of cultivated land, there are about 850 Greeks. To make matters worse, the thin topsoil of the country gives about the poorest yields of any cultivated land on the continent of Europe.

On their farms, most of which are only several acres in size, the 54 per cent of the Greeks who are engaged in agriculture raise a variety of crops, including wheat, corn, barley, oats, grapes, currants, olives, oranges, lemons, and figs. The herdsmen who live in the comparatively bare mountains of the northwest are poverty-stricken, although their flocks account for a large proportion of the estimated total of 5 million goats and 8 million sheep in Greece.

In spite of the varied products yielded by their farms, the Greeks have never found their harvests completely equal to their food needs. Even before the war, Greece had been importing a fourth of her food. She often found it difficult to obtain foreign money with which to buy this food, because she produced so few manufactured goods that could be sold abroad. Greece has lagged far behind other nations in industrial development.

Before the war, one of the richest assets of Greece was her merchant fleet. In proportion to population, it

was almost as large as that of Great Britain. The Greeks, a seafaring people since ancient times, used the earnings of this fleet to help pay for the food which it was necessary for them to buy from other lands in order to live. One of the severest blows which the Germans dealt to Greece during the war was the destruction of a large part of her merchant fleet.

Settlement of current political disputes within Greece, plus an end to the major power's rivalry over her, would enable that country to be more prosperous. It is hoped that these goals can be reached, for Greece deserves a chance to rehabilitate herself. She suffered terribly during the war, but the freedom-loving spirit of her people was never extinguished.

Our Readers Say—

As a member of a group that is studying world affairs, I believe the only way to secure a peaceful future for my generation is to bring the youth of all nations together. Then when it is our turn to take the helm, there will be a greater degree of friendliness and understanding than the world can boast of today.

At present there are few ways to communicate the problems and ideas of the youth of one country to the youth of another. Small groups have accomplished some results in this endeavor, but only a large-scale program can secure real results.

Can you, as editors of a paper that goes to large numbers of internationally minded youth, print articles written by young people, supervise correspondence, and conduct exchange departments between students of different countries?

ALFRED PIETRASANTA,
Erie, Pennsylvania.

(Editor's note: We have sponsored foreign correspondence programs in the past. As soon as conditions in other countries are more settled and we can secure names of students in other lands, we shall begin these programs again.)

How is it possible for the United States to believe that Russia, one of our Allies in the recent war, would not use her

Straight Thinking

By Clay Coss

FOUR persons, whom we shall call A, B, C, and D, are asking about a fire which occurred in their town the night before. John Doe's store had burned and they were discussing the loss when X came along and said that, as likely as not, Doe had set fire to the store himself in order to collect the insurance. We may now note the effect of this suggestion upon A, B, C, and D.

A is not impressed one way or the other. He is a dull fellow, and ideas suggested to him have about the same effect as water on a duck's back.

B is greatly impressed, accepts the suggestion as a true statement of the case and goes away, saying to everyone he meets, "Did you know that John Doe burned his store for the insurance?" B nearly always accepts any suggestion that is made to him, and believes everything that he reads in the paper without any further question or investigation.

C had felt, before X came along, that perhaps John Doe had burned his store. But when X makes his remark C takes the other side and defends Doe. He nearly always reacts this way. It is his habit to oppose ideas presented by others.

D thinks to himself, "What X says may or may not be true, but he has presented no evidence. If it is true, the insurance company will find out. Until facts come out tending to convict Doe, I will assume that he is innocent. As a matter of fact, D always insists upon having convincing evidence before he accepts any opinion or report which he hears or sees in print.

Which of these is a straight thinker?



power in the Dardanelles solely for peaceful commerce or for defense? Why do we believe she would use the Dardanelles to dominate the Middle East? And, at the same time, why do we send military arms and industrial equipment to Argentina, which was a threat to us during the war? Do we really expect to gain Argentina's friendship?

Why not give Russia a chance with the Dardanelles, a chance she so greatly deserves? Surely, her word is better than Argentina's!

What is the view of other students on this matter?

BETTY ROGERS,
Danville, Virginia.

* * *

Our class in American history has been discussing the problem of the control of the Dardanelles and we have come to the following conclusion:

We feel that the land along the Dardanelles, the Sea of Marmora and the Bosphorus Strait should be formed into a country similar to the country of Panama. The land bordering the Dardanelles should be internationalized and should be placed under the United Nations. It might even be used as a home for the Jewish people who want to go to Palestine.

AMERICAN HISTORY CLASS,
Montfort, Wisconsin.

Careers for Tomorrow - - Political Field

ONE should not enter politics to make money. It often happens that party workers in local communities are unpaid. Seldom are they paid much. Even if one is elected to public office he usually finds that the salary is fairly low and expenses are high. Most city office holders, as well as members of state legislatures, save little if anything from their salaries.

Incomes of higher officials are fairly high. Members of Congress, for example, are able to live comfortably, but they must spend a great deal at election times to hold their positions. In most cases the holder of an important public office makes less than he could make in private business.

Holders of responsible public positions usually live a harried life. They are open to constant criticism, and must be able to take it.

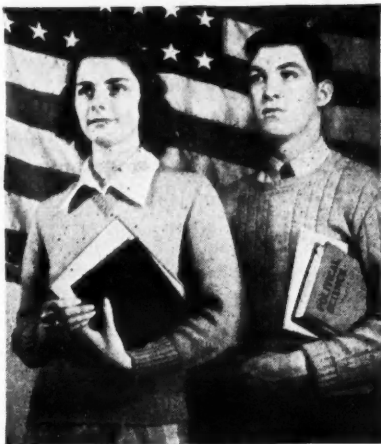
Political life, however, has its attractions. The party leader, even the leader of a city or county, gets acquainted with many people. He becomes well known. If he holds a state or national office he may become famous.

The successful political leader may have the satisfaction of knowing that he is serving the interests of the people. He can do this by standing for honest and efficient government, and by helping to solve important public problems wisely.

A person who intends to make politics his career does not ordinarily plan to give full time to it at the start. He prepares for some other occupation. Then when he has a job at which he is making a living, he gives his spare time to politics. If he is successful as a politician, especially if he is elected to office, he may give up his other work,

knowing that he can go back to it if he loses his public office.

Almost any vocation may be used as a steppingstone to politics, but some are more satisfactory than others. Lawyers and editors are usually well known in their communities and they frequently find it easy to get into politics. A manual worker could



GEORGE A. SMITH PHOTO
American government and politics need well-trained, capable young men and women

enter politics, however, by becoming influential in his labor union. A farmer, in a farming community, could be a political leader. As a matter of fact politicians are drawn from nearly all vocations.

A young man or woman looking forward to a political career should, therefore, choose some other occupation to go with it. He should work exceptionally hard in training for his vocation so that he may be highly skilled and successful at his job. He should plan to be a leader in whatever occupa-

tional group he finds himself. This will help him with his political work.

A student, while preparing for some other job, may keep politics in his mind. He can take the first steps in political training while still in school. He may choose the party with which he wishes to work, and may offer his services to the local political leaders.

At first he may be asked to address envelopes, distribute handbills, or make house-to-house canvasses, asking party members to register and vote. Later he may represent his party at the polls, seeing to it that elections are conducted fairly. Such activities may seem unimportant, but they introduce a person to the actual work of politics. They get him acquainted with large numbers of people, and especially with the local party leaders.

The most important training for the would-be politician, however, is the study of local, state, and national problems. If he thoroughly understands the problems with which public men must deal, he will be ready to speak and act forcefully when the opportunity comes.

The student interested in a political career should take all the public speaking courses his school gives. He should study English, civics, economics, and history. He should become acquainted with many people, should discuss public problems with them, and he should at all times be friendly and cooperative.

Answers to Vocabulary Quiz

1. (b) miserly; 2. (c) unchangeable; 3. (b) inept; 4. (c) chance; 5. (c) vast; 6. (c) horrible; 7. (d) flattering; 8. (a) burdensome.

The United Nations at Work

Its Permanent Staff - - The Secretariat

THE United Nations Secretariat is often referred to as the "office force" of the UN. Its duties are to keep records of what the different branches of the UN are doing; to collect information which these branches may need; to help plan for meetings of the major divisions of the UN; and generally to keep up with the many details of the UN's work.

At the head of the Secretariat is the Secretary-General, who may be compared to the president of an organization. The Secretary-General serves a 5-year term. He is nominated for his position by the UN Security Council, and must be approved by the General Assembly. Trygve Lie of Norway, a forceful and alert man with wide experience in world affairs, now holds this position.

The Secretary-General is not only the head of the permanent staff of the UN, but he also occupies an important position in relation to the Security Council and the General Assembly. He may attend meetings of these bodies, and he may call the Council's attention to a conflict between nations if he thinks it threatens the peace.

Under the Secretary-General is a staff of about 2,500 men and women from all parts of the world. They include executives, statisticians, libra-

rians, economists, writers, secretaries, and clerks.

This staff might be compared to the civil service employees of our government. They are permanent employees, chosen on the basis of their ability. They have been called the "first true international citizens," for they have sworn not to take instructions from any government or organization except the UN. Stiff penalties are set for persons who break this pledge.

The Secretariat is divided into 7 departments, each of which is closely associated with some phase of the UN's work. The Department of Security Council Affairs collects information on problems taken up by the Security Council. The Department of Economic Affairs keeps



NORWEGIAN OFFICIAL PHOTO
Trygve Lie

records on such topics as communication, transport, employment, international trade, industrial development, and food. The Department of Social Affairs deals mainly with such world problems as health, refugees, human rights, control of narcotic drugs, and

social welfare. These two departments work primarily for the UN Economic and Social Council.

The Secretariat's Department of Trusteeship deals with problems of the colonial areas. The Legal Department advises all branches of the UN on legal and constitutional problems. Another department, the Conference and General Services Department, makes arrangements for the many meetings of the UN's divisions. It finds translators, keeps records of the meetings, publishes the official text of the conferences, and handles official messages exchanged between the UN and the member nations.

The Office of Public Information of the Secretariat publishes informational pamphlets and sends out news releases on the UN's work. And a last department, that of Administrative and Financial Services, is the UN's business manager—watching over the expenses and paying all the bills of this world organization.

The Secretariat will have its offices at the permanent home of the UN. At present it is established at Lake Success, New York, where the UN is meeting temporarily. As head of this agency, Trygve Lie has one of the most important executive jobs in the world today.

Study Guide

Price Control

1. After the close of the war did President Truman favor or oppose government regulation of prices?
2. How did the Democrats and the Republicans in Congress stand on this issue?
3. What did the President think of the price control laws which Congress passed last summer?
4. What did he do this month about meat prices?
5. What are the arguments of those who think that the government should maintain a policy of price control?
6. What are the arguments in opposition to such a policy?

Discussion

1. In your opinion, what will happen now that price controls are being removed? Give reasons for your answer.
2. Some people say that when cattle raisers or manufacturers hold their products off the market in the hope that prices will rise, their action is similar to that of workers who strike for higher wages. Do you think this is a good comparison?

Greece

1. What is Russia's complaint about the present situation in Greece?
2. What is the real reason why the great powers are wrangling over Greece?
3. What European power was most influential in Greece during the period between the two world wars?
4. Over what issues were the Greek resistance groups divided among themselves during the war?
5. How was the power of the EAM greatly weakened after Greece was liberated from the Germans?
6. What grievances did the enemies of the monarchy have against the king? Why did his supporters favor continuation of the monarchy?

Discussion

1. Do or do you not think British troops should have stayed in Greece such a long time after the war?
2. Do you think the United Nations should make an investigation of the situation in Greece, or do you think England and Russia should be left alone to settle their differences over that country?

Miscellaneous

1. What is the Secretariat of the United Nations? Tell something of its work.
2. Why do we not allow meat from Argentina to be brought into this country?
3. On what points is there disagreement between the Dutch and the native leaders of Indonesia?
4. Why will it be easier for premiers of the French government to continue in office under the new constitution than it was under the prewar one?
5. Who is Paul Henri Spaak?
6. List some of the groups that have been kept from the polls by restrictions on voting throughout the history of our country.
7. What is the purpose of the crime conference to be held in Washington late in November?
8. What kind of teacher-exchange program is now being carried out by England and the United States?
9. How are the British military leaders divided over the question of England's Mediterranean lifeline?
10. When does France hold its first elections under its new constitution?

Pronunciations

Java—jah' vah
Sumatra—soo mah' truh
Celebes—sel' uh beez
Bali—bah' lee
Moluccas—muh luck' uz
Timor—tim' or (i as in it)
Salonika—sah luh nee' kuh
Piraeus—pie ree' us
Metaxas—muh tack' sus
Sjahir—shah reer'
Trygve Lie—trig' vuh lee
Paul Henri Spaak—(Paul) ahn ree' spahk.